

Machinery Custom Rates

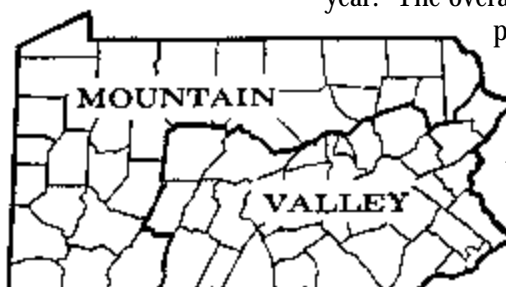
By Liana C. Cuffman

The custom rates shown are averages from voluntary reports by custom operators and farmers throughout Pennsylvania. Most of the rates are stated per acre, cwt., ton, bale, or bushel rather than per hour to reduce the variation due to machinery size. Individual rates vary due to differences in working conditions, services performed, or even the operator's eagerness to do custom work. Therefore, the average rates shown should not be considered absolute indications of fair charges.

Acreage rates are shown separately for two regions of the state, labeled **"Mountain"** and **"Valley"**. The

differences in rates between regions reflect differences in terrain, soils and alternative opportunities for the labor and equipment used. Figures labeled **"State"** represent the straight average of all reports used regardless of geographic location.

Of the 72 rates reported with year-to-year comparisons, 30 increased, 35 decreased, and 7 are the same as last year. The overall average is down 1 percent from the previous year. This percentage decrease was computed by adding the rates for all jobs, regardless of basis of charge, and dividing by last year's comparable total.



Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Pennsylvania, 1999

Job	Basis of Charge	Mountain Section	Valley Section	State
<i>Harvesting</i>				
Corn Picking	Acre	22.40	21.30	21.70
Corn Combining	Acre	25.30	24.30	24.60
Corn Drying (23 Percent)	Bushel	0.30	0.30	0.30
Combining Small Grains	Acre	23.60	23.20	23.30
Combining Soybeans	Acre	26.10	24.40	24.80
Hay Making:				
Mowing	Acre	9.60	9.10	9.30
Mowing & Conditioning	Acre	10.70	10.90	10.90
Raking	Acre	6.10	5.70	5.90
Pick-up Baling (Twine)	Bale	0.40	0.40	0.40
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store	Bale	0.98	0.94	0.95
Large Round Baler (Avg. = 1000)	Bale	6.50	6.00	6.20
Stacker-Wagon (Avg. = 1800 Lbs)	Stack	15.00	15.00	15.00
Wrapping Bales	Bale	5.20	5.70	5.50
Silage Making:				
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor	Hour	45.00	47.50	46.70
Self-Propelled Chopper	Hour	67.50	93.80	90.70
Blower	Hour	8.40	8.20	8.30
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor	Hour	34.50	34.50	34.50
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors	Hour	56.90	57.00	57.00
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo	Ton	7.90	6.10	6.60
Bagging Silage	Foot	5.10	4.30	4.40
<i>Plowing & Cultivating</i>				
Plowing, Moldboard Plow:				
Spring, Stubble	Acre	11.30	11.50	11.40
Sod	Acre	12.50	12.70	12.60
Fall, Stubble	Acre	11.60	11.70	11.70
Sod	Acre	13.00	12.40	12.60
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches or More)	Acre	14.20	15.00	14.80
Plowing, Chisel	Acre	11.80	12.10	12.00
Plowing, Disk	Acre	12.30	11.70	11.80
Disking, Tandem	Acre	10.10	10.50	10.40
With Harrow or Cultipacker	Acre	11.90	11.90	11.90
Harrowing:				
Spike Tooth	Acre	8.10	8.00	8.10

Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Pennsylvania, 1999, Continued

Job	Basis of Charge	Mountain Section	Valley Section	State
Spring Tooth Cultivating	Acre	8.40	8.80	8.60
	Acre	9.20	8.10	8.30
<i>Planting & Drilling</i>				
Planting Corn With Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till	Acre	11.80	12.80	12.50
Reduced-Till	Acre	13.10	12.90	13.00
No-Till	Acre	14.40	14.60	14.60
Planting Soybeans, Without Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till	Acre	10.60	12.70	12.30
Reduced-Till	Acre	12.70	13.40	13.30
No-Till	Acre	14.20	15.10	15.00
Drilling Small Grain:				
Without Fertilizer	Acre	9.40	12.00	11.40
With Fertilizer	Acre	10.80	11.90	11.40
With Fertilizer & Cloverseed	Acre	11.10	12.80	12.20
Seeding Alfalfa, Clover, Etc	Acre	10.00	12.40	11.70
Broadcast Seeding (<i>On Grain Fields</i>)	Acre	6.10	7.70	7.00
Cleaning Grain Seed:				
With Treatment	Bushel	0.82	0.96	0.92
Without Treatment	Bushel	0.50	0.54	0.52
<i>Spraying</i>				
Ground Equipment:				
Spraying for Weed Control:				
Excluding Material	Acre	7.80	7.00	7.20
Spraying for Corn Borer:				
Including Cost of Material	Acre	11.70	11.10	11.30
Excluding Cost of Material	Acre	7.60	7.20	7.30
Spraying for Spittle Bug or Alfalfa				
Including Cost of Material	Acre	12.60	11.10	11.60
Excluding Cost of Material	Acre	7.40	6.90	7.00
Aerial Application (<i>Excluding Material</i>):				
Fixed Wing	Acre	9.10	9.60	9.40
Helicopter	Acre	10.40	8.20	8.70
<i>Miscellaneous</i>				
Grain Hauling:				
Local	Bushel	0.16	0.14	0.15
Long Distance	Bushel	0.32	0.25	0.27
Grain Storage	Bushel Per Month	0.04	0.04	0.04
Stalk Shredding, P.T.O.	Acre	9.00	8.90	8.90
Spreading Bulk Fertilizer:				
Dry	Acre	6.00	5.90	6.00
Liquid	Acre	7.70	6.50	6.80
Side Dressing	Acre	7.20	7.10	7.20
Grinding Feed:				
Corn, Oats or Barley	Hundredweight	0.67	0.55	0.60
Corn & Cobs	Hundredweight	0.59	0.57	0.58
Cobs	Hundredweight	0.59	0.58	0.59
Additional Charge for Mixing	Hundredweight	0.30	0.30	0.30
Machine Tiling (<i>No Tile</i>)	Foot	0.54	0.61	0.56
Back Hoe	Hour	40.40	44.90	42.80
Sawing Wood, Chain Saw	Hour	16.80	15.30	15.90
Post Hole Digging	Hole	1.60	1.60	1.60
Manure Loading, <i>Solid</i>	Hour	29.70	31.90	31.20
Manure Spreading, <i>Solid</i>	Hour	26.10	29.90	28.70
Manure Pumping	Hour	24.50	19.20	21.10
Manure Spreading, <i>Liquid</i>	Hour	35.70	44.70	42.80
Bulldozing (<i>Avg. H.P. 90</i>)	Hour	57.20	58.40	58.00